

REMARKS

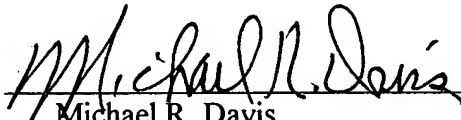
The specification has been amended to incorporate a description concerning additional prior art references, which are among the references cited in the International Search Report.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the Specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Original claims 1-10 have been replaced by new claims 11-31. New claim 11 recites that the polymerization of vinyl monomers is conducted in water, and also that all of the monomer is added directly to the start particles. Attention in this regard is directed to, for instance, the disclosure on page 6 and the working examples.

Respectfully submitted,

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March 13, 2002

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Please rewrite the paragraph on page 4, lines 4-7 as follows:

In order to describe prior art techniques in this field, reference will be made to the following patent specifications: NO 142082, NO 143403, NO 149108, NO 170730, NO 961625 (WO 97/40076), US 4,091,054, EP 0326383, EP 448391, US 4,382,124, EP 0 903 579 A1 and US 5,130,343.